

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 00421 101909Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1874
INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMCONSUL BELFAST

UNCLAS LONDON 00421

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, UK, EI
SUBJ: NORTHERN IRELAND: TORIES WEIGH IN ON LYNCH
STATEMENT

REF: LONDON 372

1. THE CONSERVATIVE SPOKESMAN ON NI, AIREY NEAVE,
REACTED STRONGLY TO THE REPORTED WEEKEND STATEMENT BY
IRISH PRIME MINISTER LYNCH, LEAVING NO DOUBT THAT THE
TORIES CONCUR IN HMG'S VIEW THAT IT WAS ILL-TIMED,
DAMAGING TO POLITICAL PROSPECTS IN NI, AND HARMFUL TO
UK/IRISH RELATIONS. THE JANUARY 10 PRESS REPORTS THAT
NEAVE ALSO INDICATED HIS INTENTION TO COMPLAIN TO THE
IRISH AMBASSADOR.

2. NEAVE CHARACTERIZED LYNCH'S REMARKS ABOUT A POSSIBLE
AMNESTY FOR IRA CONVICTS AS "INCREDIBLY DANGEROUS", AS
THEY WOULD PERPETUATE THE "MYTHOLOGY OF THE ARMED
STRUGGLE". HIS STATEMENT, AS QUOTED BY THE PRESS, SAID
IN PART: "I PARTICULARLY REGRET THIS ACTION OF MR.
LYNCH AT A TIME WHEN THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY WAS HOPING
TO ESTABLISH GOOD RELATIONS WITH HIS GOVERNMENT. THE
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LONG AND PATIENT EFFORTS MADE BY THE GOVERNMENT AND
OPPOSITION OVER RECENT MONTHS TO ACHIEVE WIDESPREAD
AGREEMENT AMONG THE TWO COMMUNITIES IN NI HAVE NOW BEEN
SET BACK".

3. THE PRESS ALSO REPORTED THAT IN FOREIGN SECRETARY
OWEN'S ABSENCE, MINISTER FRANC JUDD CALLED IN THE IRISH

AMBASSADOR TO EXPRESS HMG'S CONCERN OVER, AND REQUEST
CLARIFICATION OF, LYNCH'S REMARKS.

4. NI SECRETARY MASON ALSO REACTED SHARPLY FROM BELFAST.
HIS PUBLIC STATEMENTS WILL BE REPORTED SEPARATELY BY
CONGEN BELFAST.

BREWSTER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
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Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
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